GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4684
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2007
VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIANS IN UGANDA
Ajaya Kumar Shri S.;Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Meinya Dr. Thokchom;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many people of Indian origin (PIO) have lost their lives and property during the recent outbreak of riots in Uganda;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the total number of casualties involving PIOs;

(c) whether the Indian Government has taken up the matter with the Ugandan Authorities for the safety and security of the Indians living there;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b) One Indian national was killed and two persons of Indian origin suffered injuries during the disturbances in Kampala on 12 April, 2007. As per report received from the Indian Embassy in Kampala, damages to window glasses of Bank of Baroda (Uganda) Ltd.`s building; damages to pillars and lighting posts on boundary fenceejrr it and window panes of Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, Kampala; damage to one-signboard glass of Gurdwara Singh Sabha, Kampala and damages to a couple of vehicles were reported.

(c) to (e): The matter was taken up by the Government with the Government of Uganda forcefully. An immediate request was lodged with the Ugandan Government for providing protection to Ugandans of Indian origin and Indian nationals in Uganda. This subject was also taken up with the Ugandan Foreign Minister and Security Minister to convey concern for the safety of the Indians/ PIOs and requested that their lives and properties should be protected. It was assured by the Government of Uganda that all possible measures were being taken to ensure the safety of Indians/ PIOs and their properties. The Government is in constant touch with the Government of Uganda and continues to monitor the situation.